

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DPA Case No. 0164-16 ♦ SFPD Case No. 16-001

Date of OIS: 04/07/2016 ♦ 6 Months: 10/07/2016 ♦ 270 Days: 01/02/2017 ♦ §3304: 05/24/2019

OVERVIEW: On April 7, 2016 Officer Michael Mellone #4249 and Sergeant Nathaniel Steger #4249 responded to a 911 call for service at 19th and Shotwell regarding a man in a “mentally altered” state who was swinging a knife. They approached the suspect who would later be identified as Luis Gongora. Officer Mellone gave commands to Mr. Gongora to put the knife down. Mr. Gongora began to comply with Officer Mellone’s commands. As they approached closer, Mr. Gongora then grabbed the knife. Officer Mellone quickly shot Mr. Gongora four times with a ERIW. Mr. Gongora, who was in a sitting position, then stood up and began running towards Sergeant Steger with the knife still in hand. Sergeant Steger and Officer Mellone then opened fire on Mr. Gongora with their firearms, striking him six times. Mr. Gongora expired from his gunshot wounds.

Q4 Officer Michael Mellone #4249

Hire date: [REDACTED]

Current assignment: Richmond Station

Unit on incident date: 3D11A

Lethal: Sig Sauer P226

Less Lethal: ERIW

Named in civil suit

§3304 date tolled on 04/07/2016 due to the criminal investigation. The District Attorney declined to file criminal charges on 05/24/2018. The 3304 date is 05/24/2019.

► Unnecessary Force (UF) – The officer used unnecessary force.

► Neglect of Duty (ND) – The office failed to comply with Department Bulletin 15-234.

Q50 Sergeant Nathaniel Steger #2252

Hire date: [REDACTED]

Current assignment: Homeland Security Unit

Unit on incident date: 3D101

Lethal: Sig Sauer P226

§3304 date tolled on 04/07/2016 due to the criminal investigation. The District Attorney declined to file criminal charges on 05/24/2018. The 3304 date is 05/24/2019.

► Unnecessary Force (UF) – The officer used unnecessary force.

► Neglect of Duty (ND) – The officer failed to supervise.

FDRB FINDINGS: Both Officer Mellone and Sergeant Steger’s were found to be in policy regarding the use of their department issued firearms. Officer Mellone was found to be out of policy regarding his use of the ERIW. Officer Mellone was required to receive one-on-one training on ERIW deployment protocols. Both Sergeant Steger and Officer Mellone were required to receive training related to crisis intervention and effective field tactics.

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT:

Michael J. Gennaco

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Date of hire: ?

Purpose of hire: Report on policy violations